

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2044

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005

BROAD BAND INITIATIVE

Mandlik Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of users registered with the MTNL and BSNL for Broad Band initiative;
- (b) the other competitors in the field;
- (c) whether the BSNL and MTNL can cope up with the demand for this initiative; and
- (d) if so, the measures to be taken to meet the competition from private enterprises?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) The total number of users registered with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.(BSNL) and Mahanagar Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) are around 150,000 and 22,765 respectively.

The Total number Broadband connections working in BSNL and MTNL are around 15873 and 3611 respectively.

(b) Broadband services in the country are being provided by other authorised Telecom service providers in addition to BSNL and MTNL.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Some of important measures taken by BSNL and MTNL to meet the competition from private enterprises are listed below:-

(i) Broadband Service has been launched in January, 2005 in a number of cities and has been planned for roll out in 200 cities across the country progressively.

(ii) Creation of state of art infrastructure for broadband services.

(iii) Affordable and competitive tariff.

(iv) Wide range of tariff plans for different segments of residential and commercial broadband customers.

(v) Ensuring quality of service.

(vi) Skill upgradation of staff.